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## FRENCH CITY IS BIRTHPLACE OF TROY MEASURE

Ancient Capital of Champagne  
Has Had a Stirring and  
Dramatic History.

WASHINGTON, July 24.—Troyes, which has been the concentration camp of the Russian troops brought to France to aid in the Allied drive against the Germans, is the subject of today's war geography bulletin of the National Geographic society.

"Before the outbreak of the European war the town of Troyes, situated 100 miles southeast of Paris and 175 miles west of the Alsatian frontier, was known to American importers as one of the centers of the silk, cotton and woolen hosiery industries of France.

"As the chief town of the department of the Aube, this ancient capital of Champagne, with a population of about 50,000, is charmingly situated on an alluvial plain, with the Seine flowing to the east, and its narrow, crooked streets intersected here and there by canals. Intrepid Bishop.

"The history of Troyes includes many stirring and dramatic episodes. When the Romans came they gave the name of Augustobona to this capital of the Celtic Treveri. One of the heroic figures of its early Christian days was St. Loup or Lupus, the intrepid bishop who succeeded in persuading the supposedly ruthless Hun, Attila, to spare the town. But there was no diplomatic churchman to stay the hand of conquering Normans during the closing years of the ninth century; they sacked the town, leaving it a heap of ruins. Shortly after this calamity the power of the bishops and of the nuns in the famous abbey of Notre-Dame-aux-Nonnains began to wane and authority was transferred to the counts of Troyes, afterward known as the counts of Champagne.

"For a short time during the 10th century the city was the seat of the royal government of France during the period when the country was being devastated by foes at home as well as by those abroad, while the mad king, Charles VI, reigned, neglected, at Senlis. It was at this epoch that the treaty of Troyes was signed in 1420, whereby Henry V, of England, was made regent of the kingdom, and the dauphin, afterward to become Charles VII, was declared illegitimate. To make the bargain more secure the new ruler took as his bride Catherine, the dauphin's sister, and the marriage was solemnized in the Church of St. Jean, one of the fourteenth century edifices which Troyes still treasures as a

show place.

"Nine years after this treaty and marriage Troyes was redeemed from France by Joan of Arc while she was marching toward Rheims, at the head of 12,000 troops, to attend the coronation of the unworthy dauphin.

"Following this momentous period Troyes entered upon an era of great prosperity, and by the middle of the seventeenth century had a population about equal to its present size. During that time Protestantism had enjoyed considerable recognition in the city, so that the revocation of the edict of Nantes in 1685 struck a staggering blow to the community's industrial life, the population falling in a short time to 12,000.

"Troyes boasts a large gallery of distinguished citizens, and of these none did more for his birthplace than the humble son of a shoemaker

who became Urban IV, the pope from whose three-years' incumbency dated the preponderance of French influence in the councils of the church, leading eventually to the removal of the papal court from Rome to Avignon, and indirectly bringing about the great schism. Urban gave to Troyes a gem of Gothic architecture, the Church of St. Urban, one of the most beautiful ecclesiastical structures of the thirteenth century. Here also was born Chretien de Troyes, the great French poet and founder of the medieval courtly romance, and an adapter of Arthurian legends to the uses of French literature of his day. It was from a work of Chretien's that Wolfram von Eschenbach received inspiration for the great epic which was the basis of Wagner's 'Parsifal' libretto. The two Mignards and Francois Gentil are among Troyes' great artists,

while Girardin and Simart are her distinguished sculptors.

"It is to this city that we owe the measure 'troy ounce' and 'troy pound,' this standard having been adopted by Great Britain in 1497 for weighing gold, silver, silk and other valuable commodities. And while the apothecary and jeweler pay honor to Troyes with their balance scales, the epicure prizes this city as a place which exports exceptionally fine snails and dressed pork."

Two Canadian scientists have found Cobalt superior to nickel for plating other metals, being more durable, requiring less time to apply and providing equal protection with a thinner deposit.

### IMPROVING FAST.

Goff Queen, aged 4 years, young son of Mr. and Mrs. L. L. Queen, of 150 East Main street, who fell in the bath room at his home and broke his left arm, is fast improving.

### ADMINISTRATOR'S NOTICE.

All persons owing the estate of Wm. H. Harrison, deceased, are hereby notified to settle same with the undersigned; and all persons having claims against said estate are hereby notified to present the same for settlement to the undersigned. JESSE G. LAWSON, Administrator of the estate of Wm. H. Harrison, deceased, Bridgeport, W. Va.

### IN THE CIRCUIT COURT OF HARRISON COUNTY, WEST VIRGINIA:

Otto D. Barnes

VS. IN CHANCERY.

Charles E. Strother et al.

To Otto D. Barnes and Charles E. Strother:

You are hereby notified that on Friday,

the 11th day of August, 1910, between the

hours of 9 o'clock in the forenoon and 6

o'clock in the afternoon, at the office of

George Dobbin Pennington, in the Baltimore

and Ohio Railroad Building, in Baltimore

City, in the State of Maryland, the undersigned, Samuel R. Barr, Trustee and The

Real Estate and Improvement Company of

Baltimore City, will proceed to take the

depositions of Samuel R. Barr, W. M. Ken-

edy and other witnesses, to be read on behalf

of the undersigned on the hearing of

that certain cause in chancery pending in the Circuit Court of Harrison County, in the State of West Virginia, wherein said Otto D. Barnes is plaintiff and said Charles E. Strother and the undersigned are defendants. And if for any reason the taking of said depositions shall not be commenced on said day, or if, being commenced, the same shall not be completed on said day, then the same will be adjourned or continued from time to time, at the same place and between the same hours, until the same shall be completed.

SAMUEL R. BARR, Trustee, THE REAL ESTATE AND IMPROVEMENT COMPANY OF BALTIMORE CITY, By Counsel

GEO. M. HOFFMEIER, Counsel.



Prince William of Wied Albanian "Imported King" who fled when the War began

### An Intimate Sketch of This Balkan Pawn Which Has Been Drawn Into Europe's Conflict.

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ALBANIA is one of those unfortunate countries in the Balkan peninsula which has been used by the great powers of Europe to preserve the balance among the warring nations of that troubled section of the world. The Adriatic Sea skirts the western boundary for many miles and the possession of her seaport towns would confer upon her jealous neighbors great advantages in commerce and trade. Her coast line has, therefore, been the envy of all the Balkan States, and all of them in the

peace adjustments which followed their numerous outbreaks against each other have tried to land Albania as part of the spoils of war. But the powers have always intervened to prevent this, so Albania has enjoyed to a larger degree than any other a state of independence during the last two centuries, but the present conflagration has destroyed the unity of action on the part of the powers, and it is difficult to foretell what the future of this little nation may be and under whose protection and into whose lap she may ultimately fall.

**Early History.** In ancient times Albania was called Illyria, and in the second century B. C. it was a Roman province. When the

Roman Empire was divided in 395 A. D. the Shkypetars (as the Albanians were called) were allotted to the Eastern Empire and for a time they enjoyed semi-independence. In the fifth century the rebel Goths under Alaric swept south, but they found Illyria so poor that they did not molest the people. However, at the end of the sixth century the Slav tribes who had crossed the Danube in scattered bodies came into Albania where they committed brutalities on the natives. The Shkypetars were finally driven to the mountains and the Slavs occupied what is now Serbia, Montenegro, Bosnia and Herzegovina. There they lived and preserved a freedom for many years. Even after they were subdued

by the Turks in 1478 they had a practical independence although some of their towns were governed in name by Turkish pashas. Then came Ali Pasha who united the north and south, and until his death the country prospered. After this Constantinople took a hand in the government, but the men of the mountains were not conquered nor were they molested in their homes in the hills. An Albanian League was founded in 1878, and in 1880 the lines of the land were fixed for a new map.

**Imported King.** But the "cock-pit of Europe" was not to remain quiet very long, and when the Balkan wars came on Albania was mixed in with the other Balkan States and out of the crucible came Albania as an autonomous State with all the blessings of parliamentary government, with its own Prince and system of elections all complete. The Powers agreed to have the Prince advised and supported by an International Commission. They drew Albania on the map and shut the Albanians up into the narrow mountains, allowing them a small strip of seaboard.

After several actions of the royal families of Europe had refused the honor of becoming the ruler of the new kingdom, Prince William Henry of Wied, a nephew of the Dowager Queen Elizabeth of Roumania, accepted the position. He knew little of

the people he was to rule, and the history of his reign would have been akin to comic opera had it not been for the constant danger of assassination which threatened the "imported king." Prince William did his best to conciliate all factions, but he neither liked nor understood the people, and his task proved hopeless. Shortly after the outbreak of the present war Prince William fled to Austria. Essad Pasha became the claimant to the throne and is known as the President.

**Little Law.** There is very little law and order in the country and brigandage runs riot for the people still continue to live up to the character given to their ancestors by Gibbon who called them "a vagrant tribe of shepherds and robbers." They love independence, they love war and have a revengeful spirit merging into ferocity. They make wild, plundering soldiers, and will serve for the highest bidder, yet they are heroic in the defense of their tribes and their homes. From the earliest times they have been fighters and proved themselves intrepid warriors in the armies of Alexander and Diocletian. While serving in the pay of the Italian States, chiefly of Venice, they become famous for both their bravery and their cruelty. A few months ago their land was overrun with Serbian soldiers who fled before the Germans and their allies. Gradually these soldiers were moved to a mixture of races—Italians, Greeks, Serbs, Bulgars and a few descendants of the real Albanians. They have neither political, nor religious, nor social cohesion. Their religion is the Greek Church, Mohammedanism and Roman Catholic. The latter live in one section of the country and are practically independent as they pay no tribute, nor do they allow an Otto-

man to live upon their land. They will serve in the army if well paid. The Albanian Greeks live in another section, while the Albanians who follow the teachings of Mohammed occupy the central portion of the country. Each sect or tribe practically governs itself and the patriotism of the country exists for the tribes rather than for the entire country. The Albanian has no art, no literature, no national politics, no Albanian cause, and really no individuality except that he has a peculiar sense of honor which could hardly be called by that name from an American point of view.

**Unpleasant Customs.** The towns, except Durazzo, are without sanitation of the simplest kind and most of the scavenging of the streets is done by dogs. At Elbasan it is performed by ducks which wallow about in the dirty mud puddles of the streets. Hotel comforts such as clean bedding and clean water are unknown. The country has no manufactures except the silk weaving industry at Elbasan. In the cities the men squat about the streets and talk of the demons which inhabit the mountains, the most ignorant and superstitious set of human beings in the world. They are suspicious of foreigners and have a firm conviction that the nation who would be friendly with them is after their land—the poorest in Europe where agriculture is concerned. Perhaps their greatest field industry is the rearing of silk worms on mulberry trees for weaving of the silks at Elbasan. Very little of this silk finds its way to the markets of the Continent as the trade with the outer world is small and uncertain. The men are well built and have a savage appearance. They are not fond of work and where the ground can be tilled they cultivate only for their immediate needs.



Albanian Dudes



Albanians Loafing in the Streets